



Hawaii

Holding Power Accountable

Common Cause Hawaii • 307A Kamani St. • Honolulu, HI 96813 • 808.275.6275

To: The House Committee on Judiciary
From: Brodie Lockard, Board Member, Common Cause Hawaii
Date: Monday, March 11, 2019, 2:00 pm

In support of SB 107 SD1

Dear JUD Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura and Committee Members—

Common Cause Hawaii supports SB 107 SD1.

Voters using absentee ballots expect their votes to be counted equally to everyone else's votes. If they are eligible to vote when they cast their ballot, no subsequent event is pertinent.

Absentee ballots are not ignored after they're cast when someone changes their mind or leaves the state. The vote has been cast, and must be counted as it was cast.

Please pass SB 107 SD1 and prevent irrelevant happenstances from changing voters' stated choices.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Brodie Lockard
Board Member, Common Cause Hawaii



O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Rep. Chris Lee, Chair

Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair

DATE: Monday, March 11, 2019

TIME: 2:00 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 325 State Capitol

RE: SB 107, SD 1, Relating to Voting

To the Honorable Chris Lee, Chair; the Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Melodie Aduja and I serve as Chair of the O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i ("DPH"). Mahalo for this opportunity to submit testimony on SB 107, SD 1. The O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities ("OCCLP") hereby submits its testimony in **SUPPORT of SB 107, SD 1, Relating to Voting.**

SB 107, SD 1, provides that an absentee ballot of any voter who was eligible to vote at the time the ballot was cast shall not be deemed invalid solely because the voter became ineligible to vote after casting the ballot. SB 107, SD 1, also provides that a military-overseas ballot of any covered voter who was eligible to vote at the time the ballot was cast in accordance with this chapter shall not be deemed invalid solely because the covered voter became ineligible to vote after casting the ballot.

It is a core principle of the Democratic Party to maximize voter participation for all Americans. Our democracy suffers when nearly two thirds of our citizens do not or cannot participate. Democrats believe we must make it easier to vote, not harder.

We will bring our democracy into the 21st century by expanding early voting and vote-by-mail, implementing universal automatic voter registration and same day registration and making Election Day a national holiday. We will restore voter rights for those who have served their sentences. And we will continue to fight against discriminatory voter identification laws which disproportionately burden young voters, diverse communities, Native Hawaiians and Pacific

Islanders, low-income families, people with disabilities, the elderly, and women. *Democratic Party of Hawai'i Platform (2018), p. 19, ln. 21-30.*

For the foregoing reasons, to wit, it is a core principle of the Democratic Party to maximize voter participation for all Americans, OCCLP supports SB 107, SD 1, and urges that it passes out of the Committee on Judiciary.

Mahalo nui loa
Me ka `oia`i`o

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja

Chair, O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

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LATE

SB-107-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:36:55 AM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan P. Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments: